(b) The discussions held by the delegation centred around briefing the US Government and industry about India's industrial, fiscal and trade policy changes for strengthening institutional links between the two countries, to promote US participation in India's development through investment, joint ventures, technology transfer and sourcing of software, components and equipment form India. The visit was only exploratory in nature.

(c) The visit helps promote economic and trade ties between the two countries.

[*Translation*]

**Effect of External and Internal Loans and Trade Deficit on Growth Rate**

4911. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate is likely to decline owing to heavy loan repayments and foreign exchange deficit;

(b) the estimated trade deficit during 1991–92 and the amount of internal and external loans to be repaid together with interest thereon; and

(c) the likely decline in the growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSITRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The impact of repayment of loans on the growth rate of the country is expected to be marginal because borrowing is being kept under strict limit. The foreign exchange shortage could have an adverse effect upon growth if it is not alleviated by measures to strengthen export performance. However, the government proposes to tackle the foreign exchange shortage by a vigorous export drive so that our growth targets are not jeopardised.

The trade deficit during 1991–92 would depend on our export performance and the level of imports we can maintain keeping in view our foreign exchange reserve position. However, it is expected that current year's trade deficit would be lower compared to the last year's trade deficit at Rs. 15,142 crores. The extent of internal and external borrowing including interest payments as estimated for 1991–92 is as follows:

*(Rs. crores)*

| | *Net borrowing* | *Interest payment* |
|---|---|---|
| Internal | 38,545 | 24,770 |
| External * | 4,224 | 2,702 |

* Includes external assistance on both Government and non–Government accounts.

**Booth Capturing Rigging and other Irregularities during Recent Bye–Election**

4912. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI P.C THOMAS:
SHRI DATTA TRAYA BANDARU:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI M.V.V. S. MURTHY:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of incidents of booth–capturing, rigging, violence and other irregularities took place during the recent bye–elections.

(b) if so, the details thereof, constituency–wise;